

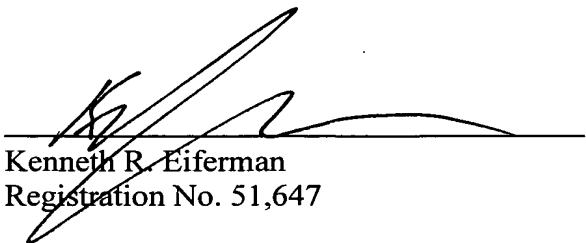
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**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present Office Action and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Date: December 9, 2004



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